

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/749,186

Examiner

David Lazaro

Applicant(s)

YOSHIASA, MASAHIRO

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 01/19/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2,4,6,8 and 10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 03 October 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER


David Lazaro
March 8, 2005

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
3. The primary reason for allowance for the claimed invention directed towards a content acquisition device, method, server and system that makes use of a cache and validity terms associated with content stored in the cache, is the inclusion of the following limitation in each independent claim: "wherein when the content requested to be acquired from the content server does not exist or cannot be found, the control section deletes the corresponding content stored in the cache section." Prior art such as U.S. Patent 5,873,100, shows that when the content server does not exist or cannot be found, a cache control typically keeps the corresponding content available to the user (Col. 2 lines 21-30). Prior art such as U.S. Patent 5,873,100, also shows that when the content server does not exist or cannot be found, the corresponding content may be deleted, but this is due to storage limitations (Col. 2 lines 30-34), not in response to the content server not existing or not being found.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
5. U.S. Patent 5,873,100 by Adams et al. "Internet Browser that includes an enhanced cache for user-controlled document retention" February 16, 1999. Discloses how a typical cache handles the situation where the content server is no longer available. See reasons for allowance for more detail.
6. U.S. Patent 5,931,904 by Banga et al. "Method for reducing the delay between the time a data page is requested and the time the data page is displayed." August 3, 1999. Discloses a cache that makes use of an expiration time/date for determining if content is valid.
7. U.S. Patent 6,253,234 by Hunt et al. "Shared web page caching at browsers from an intranet" June 26, 2001. Discloses a shared cache system that keep content updated based on a time period associated with that content.
8. U.S. Patent 6,618,751 by Challenger et al. "Systems and method for publishing data with expiration times" September 9, 2003. Discloses assigning expiration times to content such that cached versions will remain consistent on information networks.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Lazaro whose telephone number is 571-272-3986. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 M-F.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



David Lazaro
March 8, 2005



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